

BUY VICTORY BONDS AND HASTEN WINNING OF THE WAR!

Basic Bombardier

VOL. 11 No. 12

HENDERSON, NEVADA

January 14, 1944

FIRST MAIL SENT PRESIDENT FOR HIS STAMP COLLECTION AS POSTOFFICE DEDICATED

PRESIDENT Franklin Delano Roosevelt has a rare stamp for his famous collection. Nobody else in the world has one like it.

It is the first stamp sold and the first one cancelled by the postoffice at Henderson, Nevada, which opened for business last Monday.

The stamp, affixed to an especially prepared envelope, carried a letter to the President from F. O. Case, BMI general manager. The letter:

"We have the honor and privilege of forwarding to you, the nation's leading philatelist, the FIRST piece of United States mail to clear the new Henderson, Nevada, postoffice.

"The air-mail stamp is the FIRST stamp to be sold and the first stamp to be cancelled, as we trust that you will add the material to your collection.

"We are also taking the liberty of mailing to you with a copy of this letter the FIRST envelope carrying the first regular United States postage stamp sold and cancelled and the second stamp sold in the postoffice.

"You personally may be interested in the fact that the new city of Henderson, the third largest city in Nevada, has been named in honor of Charles B. Henderson, former United States Senator from Nevada, and one of Nevada's outstanding citizens.

"Henderson, Nevada, is the community built by the Defense Plant Corporation to house employees and families of Basic Magnesium, Incorporated, the world's largest magnesium-producing plant, built in the heart of Nevada's isolated and arid desert region in world record time.

"The BMI plant today is producing magnesium in excess of the rated capacity and is the largest single consumer of Boulder Dam power and Lake Mead water, government projects that are playing an outstanding part in the development of the West."

In addition to the letter to the President about 1,000 specially printed envelopes were mailed by local residents. The envelopes indicated that the letters were mailed on the first day of life for the Henderson postoffice.

Monday morning, in a simple ceremony the new postoffice was dedicated. F. O. Case read telegrams from Senators McCarran and Scrugham, Congressman Maurice Sullivan, Charles B. Henderson and Louis H. Bean of Defense Plant Corporation. Postmaster Harold Baldwin spoke. Father Peter Moran pronounced an invocation and Dave Anderson, adjutant of the BMI Post, American Legion, officially dedicated the postoffice to public use. There followed the flag-raising. A crowd of about 300, including high school students attended.

EIGHT NEW BOWLING LEAGUES WILL KEEP THEM ROLLING

Eight leagues with eight teams in each have been organized to suit the desires of BMI folks with the bowling bug. Bill Treweek is arranging schedules. Each league will bowl in the same night each week. The women's league bowls in Monday and the other circuits will roll Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Saturday and Sunday will be open. Tony Martin, men's league president, announces that there is \$395 in the kitty and that this will be divided on a basis of games won, as was announced when the league was organized.

PLANT HALF WAY TO GOAL WHICH MUST BE TOPPED IN THE WAR BOND DRIVE

PLANTWIDE EFFORT to go over the top in the War Bond-drive found employees of all departments and divisions, each with a quota of its own, only about half way to the \$220,000 goal as this issue of The BOMBARDIER went to press.

Quota for the plant includes \$58,750 in regular payroll deductions, leaving \$161,550 to be picked up through new deductions and purchases.

First division to go roaring over the top was Instrument Maintenance. Just few minutes after the organization meeting of supervisors and foremen Fred Wetherill got his associates together and in ten minutes they were down on the line 100 per cent. Since that day a number of other divisions have exceeded quotas. They include Electrical Operation, Electrical Testing, Sampling, Statistics, and Metal Plant Repair.

Speedy delivery of bonds purchased or contracted for in this campaign has been assured. They will be available to buyers the first payday after the last deduction for a given purchase has been made. Bond Department promises that all for which full deductions are made during January will be ready for buyers by February 10. Employees purchasing bonds for cash can get them in three to five minutes.

This speeding-up in bond delivery, it is hoped, will increase the amount of regular deductions for bonds, even after the January campaign is over.

MINERALOGY CLASS OPENING

A. C. Terrill, mineralogist, is organizing a class in mineralogy, beginning January 20, 8 p.m., in the lounge of the second apartment unit, Henderson. Meetings will be held one night a week for ten weeks. Terrill, Technical Service employee, is a former professor of the University of Kansas and the University of Oregon, and also taught in a university in China.

CUTTING OUT ALL "CHEESES" TO EFFECT GREAT SAVING IN BMI PRODUCTION COSTS

TRANSPORT OF HOT METAL from cells to refinery crucibles, at great saving in the cost of production, will be started at BMI in a few weeks. The new method will eliminate "cheeses," which now are allowed to cool and have to be remelted in the refinery.

This new economy is the result of experiment and study by BMI technicians, who designed the unique vehicles which have been ordered for rush delivery. The switchover to the new method will require an outlay of \$108,000. This recently was approved by Defense Plant Corporation.

The hot-metal cars, of which twelve have been ordered, are literally big thermos jugs mounted on standard truck axles. The containers, with capacity of more than two tons of molten magnesium each, have both an inner and outer shell of sheet steel. Air space between, five inches, will be packed with insulating material. Tests have demonstrated that magnesium in these containers will remain molten for several hours.

The thermos cars are 3 ft. deep, 5 ft. 8 in. wide, and 7 ft. 10 in. long. At the top of each container are two doors, one on each side. Into one metal will be poured from the cells. At the refinery the container will be tipped and the metal will flow into the crucibles from the other door.

Start of hot-metal transport is just one of the new methods being worked out by BMI to increase efficiency and reduce costs in the huge plant.

PLANT TO SHUT DOWN? WELL, LOOK AT THIS!

Commenting on newspaper reports to the effect that light metals plants in the West would soon shut down, F. O. Case, BMI general manager, declared Monday in a plant-wide bulletin that "the outlook for continued production here at BMI is much brighter than it was a month ago. He added: "Orders on hand are sufficient to keep this plant in full operation the next nine months."

The bulletin also pointed out that within the last 30 days DPC approved new expenditures for construction and changes here totaling \$217,000, as follows:

Hot metal transport.....	\$108,000
Hospital addition.....	60,000
Carver Park stores.....	49,000

That doesn't make things look like a shutdown, does it?

FOR SAFETY OF CHILDREN

For protection DPC has approved fencing of both sides of Boulder Highway, so the youngsters will have to use the underpass built by the state. Appropriation for the fencing is \$2500.



Old Glory makes the first trip to the top of the Henderson Postoffice flagpole, symbolizing use of the institution by the American public. Postmaster Baldwin, left; Dave Anderson, Legion adjutant, next; Al Weinberg of the Legion in background; and F. O. Case, BMI general manager, at the right.



Francis Lucien Peltier, quiet-spoken man now concrete worker for Coll Renewal, in Chlorine Plant, distinguished himself in World War I and carries an amazing array of official documents. Too extensive to be detailed here. In northern France he was awarded the Belgian Croix de Guerre and the British Military Medal, which was pinned on his breast by King George in person. Authorization to accept and wear it came from Gen. Pershing. By order of Maj.-Gen. Bell his name was inscribed on the Prairie Division's roll of honor. Peltier's career reads like a story book. His great great grandfather was born in France, his great grandfather in England, where he figured in history; his grandfather in Louisiana, and his father in Australia. Peltier himself was born in Mexico of American (naturalized) parentage. Before coming to the United States he became a major in the Mexican Army and fought for Diaz under the late General Kosterlitzky, famed Chief of Rurales. Although gassed in France and 53 he expects still to get a crack at the Axis in the current war.

GENERAL OFFICE

Barbara Gates, Tom Harris' office, made the mistake of admitting that she wanted for Christmas "a live, nice sailor." So the wags in her office pounced on the first navy man who put in an appearance and presented him to her. She's curbing all impulsive confessions around that gang now.

Brief portrait of Searchlight: Camp has a population of 150 and six saloons. Authority: Helene Eichaker, former resident of the old mining town.

Duke Eide, General Service, in conventional get-up, was Santa Claus to all the youngsters of Whitney. Quite a show.

A plane bearing Bliers was stranded at Palmdale Christmas Eve, ceiling having closed in over L. A. The unique part of the episode was that the landing was made on an Army emergency field, taboo usually for any but military personnel. So the shades were drawn and no one allowed to get out until a special bus arrived, some hours later.

John Ferguson, Personnel, was a flying ace of the last war. He switched from the infantry to the British Army after the Dardanelles campaign and finished up with the Royal Flying Corps, now RAF. Credited with destruction of eight enemy planes. He just looks mild.

Best wishes go with Sam Coghlan, Assistant Prep. Superintendent and one of our English trainees, who has folded his tent and taken off for San Francisco.

National Geographic's faces must have colored when we landed at Arawe, New Britain. These mapmakers were so disdainful of the tiny settlement that they left it off their newest chart. We discovered this neglect the morning after the invasion when we searched for Arawe in the Lobby map.

Art Rutherford has dubbed our magnesium exhibit in D-1 as the "spare parts room," which reminds us that the busiest gal in the building of late has been Lois Absalom, who, with pliers and yards of wire, tagged all the various pieces,

GABBS

Top this one if you can: Chug Utter, Catskinner at mine, had his tonsils removed on Sunday, never missed a shift!

Recent kangaroo court did such sharp business that fines filled stockings of 243 children with Christmas goodies and provided each a book containing three 25-cent War Stamps. Happiest of parties.

Little Freddie Humphrey wishin' he were big enough for the Navy. Brother, Norman, Aviation Machinist's Mate First Class, spent furlough at Fred Humphrey home. Was on the Lexington and has also seen considerable action in war zones. Another brother, Bob, has just gone to join the Navy. Tough on Freddie.

Ed Brewer injured by long distance, spraining his ankle while visiting in Winnemucca with Roy Whitman. Report is that a loud cowpuncher yelled "whoopee" on the street and Ed turned ankle, neck, and the curb, all at one time.

The "flu" bug is tagging Gabbs employees on all sides but most of them are fighting hard and staying on the job.

Frank Pugnar, guard here for almost two years, is back, having been "out" on account of a dislocated shoulder.

Old-time weather prognosticators are in bad with Lonnie, son of the Doug Grants, and with other boys who received sleds for Christmas. Predicted lot of snow. Didn't get here.

New daughter gladdens the G. W. Cottams. Born in Los Angeles. Papa's hats probably have to be enlarged. The Earl Pippins have another fine boy, their third. Six to go for that baseball team!

PERSONNEL

RESOLUTIONS--PLUS what else our good folk did to start 1944:

Ed Schroder - To terminate EVERYbody with prejudice!

Lucille Kubig - To buy more War Bonds. Her husband buying one every week.

Murray Owen - To believe no rumors.

Bill Scherer - To learn all possible about industry generally; to help get magnesium into its proper place in light metal field; and to lead a better life!

Betty Hymen - To write every day to a certain lucky guy in India.

Jerry Dill - To write boy-friend in Hawaii twice a week at LEAST; not to gamble; to put all spare money in bonds and build up bank account. (Jerry would not say for what purpose but she BLUSHED most attractively!)

Mary Grace Hodge--Not to divulge what she resolved. Hope still to find out. Same goes for Marguerite Matzinger.

Bob Libert - To cut down on smoking a little. Just lighting another cigarette.

Montez McCarty - To pack her husband's lunch every single day.

Rozan Morris - Started two weeks early and broke only two she made on New Year. Mazine Gruwel - Never to say a cruel word to her husband excepting Saturday nights when he won't take her out.

Frank Gale - Never to be surprised at ANYthing. Was nursing mean toothache.

Barbara Harris - Resolved to keep any resolution provided she made it.

Gene Grant - To bolt his desk to floor to avoid surprise Personnel office moves.

Mr. Ferguson - To do his all to get war finished in '44, at least in Europe.

LaRue Campbell - To see if the rat trap will work. (Ask her about that trap she got at our Christmas party. This is leap year, too, Lauee.

Only thing Helen Hicks admits is that she took a bath.

Cleo Eggleston claims she slept all day--but no hangover.

Anne Wolley went to San Francisco, her first coast trip since coming to BMI a year ago from Indiana.

Frank Degan and husband, Jim, went to Los Angeles. Her father their guest, having come from Colorado.

Clarice Fouch missed Christmas party because she went to Bakersfield to visit sister and pick her first oranges.

Irene Westman and hubby went to dance in Boulder City, breakfast 3 a.m. Grand New Year's just keeping house.

Bill Kingsley out of hospital, victor in Battle of the Flu. Lighter, cheery.

Elaine de Spain and husband, Bud, with Mary and Warren Snodgrass, threw a big party--progressive--New Year's night, ending with a bang. Sleepy eyes and contemplative appearance Monday morning? indicated it WAS a party!

PAUL BAKER--AND US

Dust too thick? Fumes too oppressive? Is the combination of little vexations too much for you?

Then meet the spirit of Lt. (j.g.) Paul Gerald Baker.

You must meet him in the spirit only because Paul Gerald Baker, in the flesh, is dead.

It was down Tulagi way. Flying back to the carrier that was home to him the young lieutenant had every reason to be proud of his day. He had just made himself a Navy ace.

A U.S. task force had caught up with the end of a main Jap invasion armada. In the death-fight among the clouds, Lt. Baker had shot down five Jap planes, and the U.S. task force had disposed of three Jap carriers.

It was a day of double glory for Lt. Baker. For the Wildcat which he was piloting already had five little Jap flags painted on her flanks--painted there because it was in this same plane that Butch O'Hara had saved his carrier, the Lexington, by sending five Jap planes into the sea and driving four others off. Lt. Baker was carrier-bound, happy that he had added glory to the ship which Butch O'Hara has christened with victory.

The gas in the plane was low. The sun was sinking into the sea. But the loneliness of the dying day was not for Lt. Baker. You see he was not alone. Behind him were ten Jap planes, following to locate the carrier which they had been seeking all day long.

The big carrier flashed Baker a warning. He must turn out his landing lights. He could not land.

Baker could have dropped then and there into the sea and trusted to luck that he might be rescued. But he chose otherwise. Banking sharply he changed direction. With the ten Japs still on his tail he headed out to sea.

Paul Baker died alone out there in the darkness. He flew until his gas was gone and then plunged into the ocean. But the ten Japs did not find the carrier.

Tough going around here?

What do you think Baker would say?

BASIC BOMBARDIER

Published Every Other Friday, # by Basic Magnesium, Incorporated in the Interest of Employees of World's Largest Magnesium Plant P. O. Box 1150--Henderson, Nevada

Editorial Office

E-7 McNeill Administration Building

Phones 54 and 58

EDITOR

W. Harold Kingsley

MANAGING EDITOR

John L. Von Blon

WOMAN'S EDITOR

Zelda Reed

ADVISORY STAFF

Guernsey Frazer John Dennis Keyes

Al Weinberg William G. Scherer

CORRESPONDENTS

Building Maintenance	Evelyn Cherry
Chlorine Plant	Louise Poland
Electrical Department	Betty Bowen
Electrolysis	W.C. Sayer
General Office	Ruth Lusch
Instruments	Corinne deRossette
Metal Shops	Jane A. Johnson
Personnel	Frances Ney
Plant Protection	Velta R. Shay
Purchasing - Warehouse	Carol Freeman
Refractories	Jack Arnold
Technical Service	Harriette King
Transportation - Safety	Beth Schwartz
Gabbs	Thelma M. Grant

DOUBLE-HEADER BASKETBALL

Double-header basketball games, Boulder City League, will be played in Henderson High auditorium this month.

On January 18, 7:15, the BMI Bears vs. S.U.C. will clash; 8:30, BMI Chiefs vs. Central Market.

January 25, 7:15, Gunnery School No. 1 vs. Gunnery School No. 2; 8:30, BMI Chiefs vs. BMI Bears.

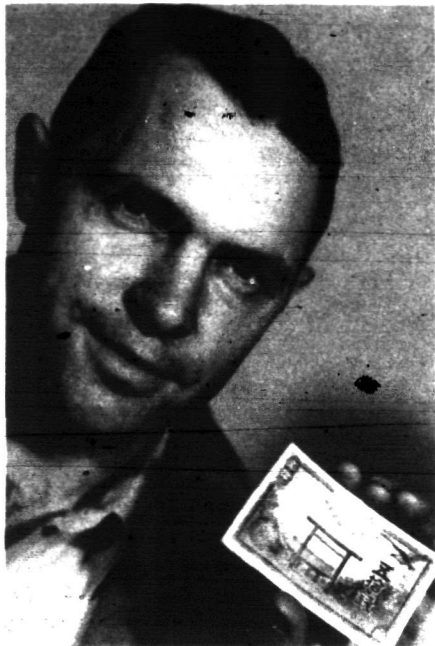
Admission, 55 cents (tax included) for adults; children under 12, 25 cents.

HEY YOU, BOB, WHAT ABOUT IT?

Paging a guy named Bob. He's tall and about 50 and he used to live around Portsmouth, Ohio. Ira Swayne, Route 4, Peebles, Ohio, writes. If Bob's here and wants he can communicate with Ira.

BMIOPENERS

By PETE MOSS



D. C. (Direct Current) McCrary, Test Engineer, Electrical Lab, exhibits with pleasure a bit of Jap currency which he received by mail. Lt. Arthur Armstrong, his long-time friend, who has figured in several South Pacific major actions, removed the money from a good Nip (dead one), sent it to "D. C." as a souvenir.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

We're just too interesting not to be heard about so this department starts 1944 breaking into print in OUR paper!

Barney Delozier's Tygonners had a party at Last Frontier and proved they are as good in the social line as at their work—which is plenty.

Betty Sibley went to Mt. Charleston to usher in the New Year with a resolution to learn skiing. May have to line up an emergency secretary when and if.

We're going to run a bowling league of our own, having eight of the noisiest teams to appear in any alley, and if a best can be decided on all comers will be challenged with gusto and eclat.

Foremen played Santa to the two most spoiled secretaries in the plant—Betty Sibley and Evelyn Cherry, presenting each with \$25, real money. No comments unfavorable to foremen, their work or anything else, can be accepted.

Don Tatum, McNeil and Basic old-timer, has decided that sign-painting isn't as hard on one as bronco-busting. Decision reached after his latest equine purchase took a notion to go it alone and tossed Don into the local landscape, not too artistically, either.

TECHNICAL SERVICE

Believe it or not, Dr. George Parsons left his beloved chlorinators long enough to get married. The bride was Gladys Swayze of the Refinery. Best of good fortune to them!

All disliked bidding goodbye to Al Boyle, gone to armed forces in East. E. M. "Pete" Fitchett succeeds to Superintendent of Chemical Control, and Hilford Smith jumps from Analytical Supervisor to Fitchett's assistant.

Virginia Williams and Mary Frederickson returned from distant vacations, the former in Ohio, the latter Minnesota.

Another favorite employee leaves for Army induction—Willie Wilson.

John Hiegel challenging all Tech to top that 21-inch-plus trout he took out of the Colorado, before witnesses.

EARLY PROJECT WORKER PASSES

Many friends on the project will hear with regret of the recent death of Harry Jackson, McNeil expediter who was on the job here from the start until completion of construction operations. He had since been employed on the Pasco project, in the State of Washington, where he passed away. Burial was at Portland, Oregon.

THEY WERE ABOUT to fix up a room for the magnesium casting display from Europe. Ralph Weeder told the carpenter where to do it and how. They got the signals crossed. When Frank Hanrahan walked into his sanctum after a trip down the hall the crew was moving desks and starting to put up shelves. Nobody was hurt. ... Art Rutherford has two busted ribs. The durn fool put on the gloves with his football playing son. Took one in the midriff that knocked him cuckoo. What Art needs is a timekeeper who'll end every round before it starts.

DO YOU REMEMBER?—When a purchase order darned near went through calling for 10,000 angleworms to help fertilize the lawns in the townsite?.... When Ed Ball, McNeil's big Irish labor boss, almost cold-cocked a guy who said Ed kept his job because he was a first cousin of Major Ball?.... When, on Aug. 31, 1942, Howard Mann slipped Bill Gale a little hunk of magnesium, saying: "If that first cell doesn't produce tonight get this melted. We're going to show magnesium tonight, come hell or high water." And now tickled the "old man" was when the first ladle dip brought out the metal?.. ... When in order to get a paper clip you had to talk approval out of Howard Mann, DPC and Coverdale and Colpitts?..... When some guy had a swimming pool all dug at the Trailer Park before anybody in authority found it out?.... When a whole building got lost down in the field and it took three days to find it?.... When, on the first day that Anaconda took over the secretary of one of the brass hats said that Mister Case wanted to speak to him and he said, "Who the hell is Mister Case?"

FAMOUS LAST LINES:—Never mind heating that ladle, Joe. Just dip it in the cell cold.

INSTRUMENT SHOP

J. Y. and Ruth Seward spent a few days in Fresno visiting her brother, AAF, who is stationed in the raisin capital.

Dr. E. B. Rubloff hobnobbed about Last Frontier by way of spending his vacation.

Harold Painter, on vacation, devoted most of the time to church affairs in Pittman and at Manganese Ore Townsite.

R. F. Whitney, Instrument Repair, went to Gabbs to "doctor" the instruments in the Milling Plant, a large institution.

Al Decker, whose father passed away in Los Angeles, family home, has sympathy of his fellow-employees.

Thrills come unexpectedly. While at Victory Theater on a recent evening Corinne deRossette was enjoying Movietone News, showing President Roosevelt reviewing troops in Sicily and presenting Distinguished Service medals to Gen. Clark and five other officers for their work while landing the 7th Army there. Among them was Lt.-Col. Joseph B. Crawford, Humboldt, Kans., who was Corinne's classmate in high school at Humboldt.

TRANSPORTATION — SAFETY

Henceforth our Yardmaster will be just "grandpa". Used to answer to Clark Hardy at real time call. His daughter, Mrs. Richard Hauser, the new mother, formerly was employed at BMI.

Nel Oerter, Tire Shop Foreman, entertained his brother-in-law, Richard Hayden, on furlough from an Army camp in Kansas. Robert Oliver, Garage Mechanic, hastened to Oklahoma City to see his son, about to report for overseas duty.

James Walker, formerly Truck Driver, inducted into the armed forces, becomes apprentice seaman, U. S. Navy. Edward Sherrill, Truck Pool, now in the Army.

Engine Foreman Harvey Gilbert, back from visit with soldier son at Camp Roberts, says he had to swim both ways soon as he hit the California border. Nevada sunshine his preference. Missed first shift in more than a year.

George McCauley, Engine Foreman, a happy man these days—wife recovering from critical illness.

AND THEY DON'T MEAN CHEER

Overheard in Recreation when two basketballers talk: "They don't want to see us play, they just come to jeer."



She says she's "just a ripple" but ere many weeks she will be a full-fledged WAVE. Florence Parker, Timekeeping, got her orders to report to the Navy yesterday, January 13. She will take training at Punter's College, in New York, and her plans are to take up accountancy.

CHLORINE

Chlorine and Caustic plans are ready for a full-speed-ahead, all-out production year 1944 under Superintendent Frank Woodman.

Offsetting the recently remodeled offices are Bonnie Keeling and Maj Alsop, both strictly GI wives, the initials standing for Glamor and Initiative, too.

Mitch Mazur, Staff Assistant, away on vacation between two years.

They're seen around: Ralph Lamies dancing at Last Frontier; Fred Sauls eating chicken at the Dunes with fingers and great glee; Wally Highfills doling out ration points at market—had to turn back can of shrimp, looked doleful; Manuel Sanchez rummaging Townsite Market for just the right chili peppers, and not finding them, very sad, likes hot stuff; Urban Sherbrings moving to Boulder; the Paul Timmes El Cortez-ing.

We like in Chlorine: Our Merit Badges for 100 per cent attendance; the noon whistle; our bosses, each other, and Thursdays. We don't like: AWOL persons whose work we have to do Monday mornings when they're missing; getting to No. 4 Canteen after roast beef's all gone; being last to get on 4:35 bus at Clock House No. 3; and having our money down on 31 when 13 rolls around.

To C&C employees: Leave any items you want the plant to know about in the box for that purpose at Clockhouse No. 3 and your correspondent will do the rest. Be sure to sign your name and badge number.

PURCHASING — WAREHOUSE

Everywhere James Rowan goes his Lamb is sure to go—he married Fae Lamb on New Year's Eve. Ted Hampell chose the Eve of Christmas to slip the main ring on Mabel Eller's finger.

Stores Accountant Sam Roberts carries eight pounds more. New son's name Larry Lewis Roberts.

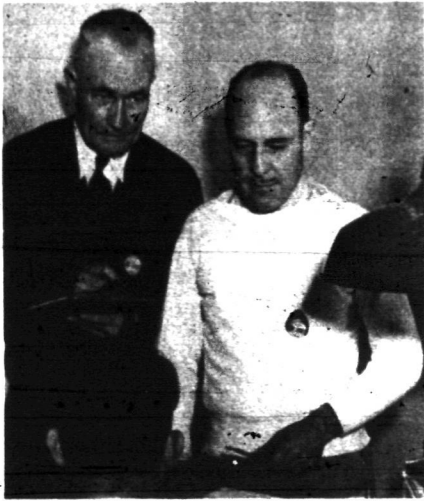
Welcoming industrious Edna Adams back to her desk after illness. Same to "One-Two Pocket" Iony Martin and "Crossfire" Shaffer, finally back from Rose Bowl.

Bob Truex, assisted by Gil Myers did the pouring at Purchasing's Christmas tea party. Highlight was watching Algid (Frigid) Nina Patrick sip while wearing the earmuffs Santa brought.

Vacation days over, Frank Burke, much refreshed, drags about ten-pound gain.

Songwriter Hal Fromer flushed with the good news that his new "Blue Mo" is accepted for featuring by Freddie Martin and his orchestra. Seems Hal has been "sounded" by ten publishing houses.

Connie Milholland and daughter, Sherry, dash to Hollywood to assist Adrian in costume designing.



First Aiders Norman Brayshaw, left, and George Davies looking over a subject.

HERE THEY GET HELP QUICKLY WHEN NEEDED

BMI First Aid Station is an important spot because "accidents happen even in the best regulated families, especially industrial. About 45 cases are handled daily. Used to be 200. There's work to keep a staff of ten busy.

Foreman Norman Brayshaw, who started with McNeil, has been here almost two years. He was a medical missionary in Central and South America five years, acquired considerable medical experience in the course of duties there.

George Davies spent seven of his 30 years in first aid with the U. S. Marines in foreign service, and was also examining medical officer for Bethlehem Steel. Fred Kucht, one of three original first aid men here, was out with the ambulance when the photo was taken. His, too, is an interesting medical history, involving eighteen years with Los Angeles County.

DEATH CALLS FAVORITE IN STENOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT

Sad news has come to BMI office personnel--the death of Frances Frame on January 3: An employee in the Stenographic Department, she had worked until a few weeks ago, happy and apparently well. Suddenly the doctor warned of tuberculosis and the family sent her to a sanatorium near Los Angeles. Resigned to months of rigid regime, hope was held for her complete recovery. At Christmas time she contracted influenza, followed by pneumonia, which her weakened resistance could not withstand.

Frances will always be remembered here as an exceptionally attractive, lovable girl--a buoyant spirit, happy nature and bright smile, radiating a deep spiritual strength for one so young and frail. A gifted violinist and lover of music, she had recently been overheard saying that she had left her instrument in California because "my job now is to do all I can in defense work and my husband's job is to be a good soldier; music and the pleasanter things will still be enjoyed when all this (war) is over." Frances was a good soldier, plucky and brave.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

T. P. Benedict, General Foreman, Battery Maintenance, has taken over the Permanent Electrical Shop, succeeding N. O. C. Miller, who goes into business for himself in Las Vegas.

Electrician Warren Dayton is proud father of a daughter, Patricia Ann, 8 pounds, early 1944 arrival in BMI Hospital. Yes, father's doing nicely, too!

L. E. (Pop) Means and Glen A. March, popular employees, back on job after vacations, complied with government's non-travel request and stayed at home. BMI Telephone Operators, feeling downcast over failure to receive the usual Christmas chocolates, purchased a fine 20-pound turkey and had a dinner of their own, trimmings and everything.

V. E. Macdonnell and H. H. Gillings were in New York on company business, visiting the Anaconda offices there.

"LIFE" GIVES US NOTABLE BOOST WITH PLANT PICTURES IN COLOR

That livest of weekly magazines, LIFE, devotes six pages of the current issue to a graphic pictorial description of the BMI plant, with two full pages of illustrations in beautiful color. It's a striking, comprehensive presentation both in art and text, including sketches bringing out phases of the magnesium processes. If you can still pick up a copy you'll find it something worth keeping as a prized souvenir.

Thanks, Mr. Luce, for as fine a compliment as any publication could pay us!

CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITION TO BMI HOSPITAL UNDERWAY

To improve and increase facilities for BMI employees and their families construction was started early this week on a 26-bed addition to the BMI Hospital. Cost will be between \$50,000 and \$60,000, which has been authorized by Defense Plant Corporation.

The new addition will be an extension of the present wing which extends from the center of the building toward the townsite.

The addition will provide 12 private rooms and 14 ward beds, according to Dr. D. E. Hemington, chief surgeon. Facilities for maternal care will also be improved.

MODERN BUSINESS DISTRICT FOR CARVER PARK APPROVED

Carver Park is going to have an up-to-date business district. Defense Plant Corporation has just approved plans and expenditure of \$49,000 for construction of buildings to house a general store, meat market, grocery, coffee shop, barber shop and beauty parlor. Plans for the structure were drawn by Paul Williams, noted negro architect. Contract for construction has already been let. The new buildings will be near the entrance to Carver Park, opposite the administration building.

ROMMEL "VICTORY" MEDALS FROM AFRICA "WON" HERE

Marshal Edwin Rommel, vanquished leader of the now badly beaten Africa Corps, was so sure that he was going to conquer Africa that four BMI employees now have medals commemorating the German "victory". Here's the story!

Bill Way, who used to be chief field engineer here in the jolly old construction days, is now in service in Africa. Not long ago his outfit was salvaging a sunken Axis ship. In the cargo were cases of medals for distribution to German and Italian troops when Africa was conquered. Bill sent a medal each to Ruth Lusch, Doris Furry, his former secretary; Harley Lee and Bill Roseboom.

One side of the medal shows two men--one a German, one an Italian--prying open the mouth of a crocodile. The "croc", of course, represents Africa. On the other side is an Egyptian arch flanked by the swastika and fasces, the German and Italian symbols of superiority. Wasn't it thoughtful of Rommel to provide these nice souvenirs for our folks?

KNOCK OFF AND BLOW OUT!

This one popped up in Refractories Maintenance copy, too late to get into the correspondence department:

Herman Suelheisen, assistant super, and Joe McHatten, plaster shop foreman, were indulging in their usual Monday morning fish fabrications.

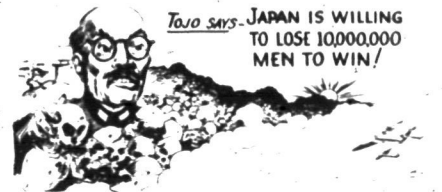
Herman: "I was fishing on the river yesterday and didn't get a fish. But I did snag and pull up an old Indian lantern. It was still lit and it had a date carved on it--1894."

Joe: "I had better luck. I caught a 50-pound trout."

Herman: "O.k. Joe, O.k. But I'll tell you what I'll do. If you'll knock off 45 pounds from that trout I'll blow out the lantern."

BMI Chiefs--John Hiegel, manager--are not so young as they used to be. That's why they're a little proud of the outcome of their basketball game against Camp Williston last week. They gave the younger soldiers a hot contest, and lost by a score of 33 to 28.

EQUIPMENT OR LIVES?



WE USE EQUIPMENT!
THE ARMY AND NAVY
NEVER NEEDLESSLY
RISK A MAN'S LIFE...
MORE EQUIPMENT NOW
WILL SAVE LIVES AND
SHORTEN THE WAR

VICTORY BEGINS ON THE PRODUCTION LINE!



BMIFULS

By BASIC MAGGIE

HEARD A NEW ONE the other day, and it was just screwy enough to be within the realm of possibility. A family leaving Henderson put its furniture up for sale. Inadvertently the word "furniture" was left off the notice on the bulletin board, which accordingly ran: "FOR SALE: such and such an address, Townsite". The woman of the house was surprised next day to have a caller interested in buying the house! Took a lot of explaining to dissuade him.....which reminds me of another furniture sale here. Goods were being disposed of and the man quoted the refrigerator at \$50. "You can't do that to me," said the would-be buyer. "That doesn't belong to you." "Oh yes it does, I paid \$50 for it when I moved in," the seller replied, and proved it by showing an alleged receipt. Just one of DPC's problems.....Remember Lillian (Two-Gun) Presnell, who left Terminations to join the WAVES? She's an officer now, and a very good-looking one too.....A recent letter from Mary Ellen Graham and Ernie Fernstrom gives their whereabouts as Miami, Fla. They are crazy about the place (of course they would be) and having lots of fun and say hello to the Old Folks back at BMI.....Good to hear that Geneva Chase is back on her job, after time out for an appendectomy. Nicg, if one's appendix must act up, to be working in the hospital!.....Along with the headaches and the baggy eyes, Basic Maggie picked up some recipes for still-available-liquor that were worth the hangovers--almost. Cut these out and save them for next New Year's--you'll not come upon their like again! Planter's Punch goes something like this: Two quarts strong tea, large bottle of grape-juice, a big bottle of rum, orange juice, lemon juice and sugar to taste. And, states Pete, tastin' is the most fun. Only rival is Fish House Punch--guaranteed (no, cousin it doesn't smell--it originated at the famous cafe on the Embarcadero in San Francisco) and here it is: Two bottles of light rum, one-fifth bourbon, quart of lemon juice, three-quarter pounds of sugar. Make into a syrup with one quart of water. Lot of ice and finally a wine glass of peach brandy. Everybody stand back while it's being sampled. And, last but not least, Champagne Cocktails that will make you dream the war's over. Into a champagne glass pour a jigger of good brandy, some curacao, and fill the glass with champagne. That's all--but!

NO HARDER TO CATCH

"While in Europe did you have much difficulty in grasping Portuguese?"
"Oh, no, they were no harder than the American girls."